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Programme questions: evaluation

Triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme

Note by the Secretary-General**

In conformity with General Assembly resolution 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, and with General Assembly resolution 54/244 of 23 December 1999, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit the attached report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the evaluation of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme (E/AC.51/1998/3 of 17 March 1998). The report has been reviewed by the relevant departments and offices. The Secretary-General takes note of its findings and concurs with its conclusions.

* E/AC.51/2001/1.

** Delayed in order to coordinate with other OIOS reports concerned with the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

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Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme

Summary

The present report is submitted in accordance with the decision taken by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its twenty-second session to review the implementation of its recommendations three years after taking decisions on an in-depth evaluation.

Overall, the level of implementation of the recommendations in the in-depth evaluation was somewhat disappointing. Recommendation 1 on the servicing of intergovernmental meetings, and recommendations 3, 4 and 5 on information and dissemination functions, and recommendations 10 to 15 on cooperation with related activities in other organizations, were implemented in a manner OIOS found to be satisfactory. OIOS will review conformity with proposals in paragraphs 13, 20, 22 and 24 of the present report aimed at completing the implementation of recommendations on the monitoring of standards and norms, traditional publications, public information policy, and information on the contribution that operational activities in crime prevention and criminal justice make to development. OIOS will follow up on these issues, and the more general issues concerning training aspects of projects, fund-raising, and relations between the Centre for International Crime Prevention and the affiliated and associated institutes, raised in paragraphs 26, 29, 36 and 42 of the present report.

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I. Introduction

1. At its thirty-sixth session, the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) recommended to the General Assembly that the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme be the subject of an in-depth evaluation and that the report on it be submitted to the Committee at its thirty-eighth session in 1998. In a report to CPC at its thirty-seventh session, OIOS noted (E/AC.51/1997/4, para. 6) that it would conduct an inspection of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division in 1997 and suggested replacing the evaluation of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with that of another programme. CPC, however, decided to retain its initial recommendation.[1]

2. In the middle of 1997, OIOS carried out an inspection of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division and issued its report as document A/52/777. The in-depth evaluation subsequently conducted took the review into account. The evaluation report was issued as document E/AC.51/1998/3.

3. At its thirty-eighth session, CPC considered the OIOS report on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme (E/AC.51/1998/3). The Committee endorsed all recommendations contained in the report. The present report is a review of the implementation of those recommendations, based on a review of the relevant documentation, information submitted in response to queries and consultations for clarification and verification purposes. It examines the extent to which the recommendations of the evaluation have been implemented under the new managerial structure that came into effect in 1998, which integrated the Crime Prevention and Drug Control Programmes under a single Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (ODCCP), with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division renamed the Centre for International Crime Prevention (CICP).

4. An OIOS inspection review of the programme management and administrative practices of ODCCP was conducted in the first quarter of 2001. The report on that inspection will be issued separately as a document of the General Assembly.

5. During the period under review, 1998-2001, the CICP supported the negotiation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and three Protocols thereto. As of the end of March 2001, the Convention had received 126 signatures, the Protocol against Trafficking in Persons, 85, and the Protocol against Smuggling of Migrants, 82. The Centre also organized the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, which was held in Vienna from 10 to 17 April 2000. The Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century was adopted at the Congress (see General Assembly resolution 55/59, annex).

II. Findings

A. Substantive activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention

1. Servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Recommendation 1. Strategic management. **To facilitate the strategic management of the Programme, the Centre should develop proposals on the manner in which the implementation of existing and additional mandates are to be integrated into the Programme and present them to the Commission at its eighth session, in 1999.**

6. In paragraph 12 of his report to the Commission at its eighth session on the work of the Centre (E/CN.15/1999/2), the Executive Director stated that "in line with the Centre's new priorities for technical cooperation, three global programmes were launched in March 1999, against trafficking in human beings, against corruption and against organized crime". In paragraph 4 of resolution 1999/23 on the work of the Programme adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 28 July 1999 on the recommendation of the Commission in its report,[2] the Commission noted the CICP initiative in developing the three global programmes, but stressed that they "should be formulated on the basis of close consultation with Member States and review by the Commission" and in paragraph 5 called upon the Centre to focus its technical cooperation activities on priority issues.

7. In paragraphs 9 and 11 of his report to the Commission at its ninth session on the work of the Centre (E/CN.15/2000/2), the Executive Director stated

that CICP focused its resources on the three global programmes, that teams had been established with responsibility for each of the three global programmes, supported by the unit dealing with technical cooperation activities. The Vienna Declaration contained statements regarding the three global programmes (paras. 5, 7 (d), 8, 10, 14 and 16). The CICP programme of work for 2000-2001 as reflected in paragraphs 14.17 to 14.19 of the proposed programme budget for that biennium[3] gives descriptions of implementing activities with the three global programmes at the core. This emphasis is reiterated in programme 12 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005[4] and section 14 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.[5]

8. OIOS considers that recommendation 1 has been implemented, in the sense that proposals were made to the Commission and adopted as modifications of the Centre's programme of work.

2. Development and promotion of standards and norms

Recommendation 2. Monitoring of standards and norms. **The Centre should present to the Commission at its eighth session proposals to improve the monitoring of the use and application by Member States of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.**

9. The report of the Secretary-General on the use of standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice was submitted at the eighth session of the Commission (E/CN.15/1999/7). However, it did not contain a proposal on improving the monitoring of the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms. In its report on the eighth session, the Commission stated that "the system for gathering information on the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice was considered a useful tool for benchmarking in order to identify the degree to which States applied those standards and norms. Only by using such a system could the Commission identify whether the international community had achieved progress in devising effective crime prevention policies and humane and fair criminal justice systems" (E/CN.15/1999/12,[2] para. 82).

10. The mandated functions of the Centre involve information-gathering and database development processes via surveys and other methods, including independent research, to ascertain the nature and extent of the use and application of standards and norms.

11. During 1999-2000, the Centre designed 5 survey instruments and conducted 12 global surveys or inquiries on various existing and emerging instruments. Survey results are conveyed to the Commission in reports of the Secretary-General in accordance with the staged reporting cycle determined by the Commission. Two reports of the Secretary-General are being submitted to the Commission at its tenth session: one report on standards and norms, which also integrates reporting obligations on violence against women, elements or responsible crime prevention as well as victims of crime and abuse of power, and another report on the sixth quinquennial report on capital punishment. At this point, at least five reports are expected to be submitted to the Commission at its eleventh session (juvenile justice reform, penal reform, crime and public security, standards and norms, survey results on code of conduct for public officials, survey results on declaration against bribery and corruption, restorative justice). Issues to be treated in the future, the corresponding documentation, and the nature of the reporting cycle, for subsequent sessions (twelfth-onward) will be determined at the eleventh session.

12. It is expected that with the exception of penal reform which might involve design of an additional, new questionnaire and conduct of another global survey, the survey or information-gathering process called for by the Commission eight years ago will complete its first cycle with reporting on results of ongoing surveys at the tenth and eleventh sessions. CICP informed OIOS that paragraph 21 of the report of the Executive Director on the work of the Centre to the Commission at its tenth session (E/CN.15/2001/2 and Corr.1) included the suggestion that the Commission consider revising the existing set of obligations of the Centre to report periodically to the Commission, which were established in the first half of the 1990s, when the Programme had a different focus.

13. OIOS considers that recommendation 2 was not fully implemented, and that the CICP should, upon completion of the first cycle of reporting on the use and application of standards and norms at the eleventh session of the Commission, propose to the Commission at its twelfth session a revised mechanism for reporting

on their use and application that would minimize the reporting burden.

3. Information and dissemination functions

(a) Clearing-house and information dissemination functions

Recommendation 3. Registration of web site users. **A registration procedure should be introduced by 30 September 1998 for all Centre web sites. The procedure should permit the Centre to obtain information on the affiliation of users, the geographic region from which the inquiry is coming, the nature of their interests and the information accessed. The information on users and their interests obtained in this way should be analysed every six months and discussed by senior management.**

14. Migration of the web site from the University of Vienna to the Information Support Unit (ISU) of ODCCP was accomplished in 1999. ISU collects statistics on web access, including the geographic region from which the inquiry is coming and the pages accessed. In paragraph 60 of the report at the ninth session (E/CN.15/2000/2), it was noted that the United Nations Crime and Justice Information Network (UNCJIN) had been selected as a "Best of the Web" Internet site by the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. CICP now considers that user names and affiliation data are not essential for site development, but rather the site's trend analyses should focus on information accessed, and monthly "visits" recorded. This information is reviewed periodically and required changes in the structure of the web site are introduced regularly to make information more accessible and user-friendly.

15. During 2000, UNCJIN received 294,523 visits requesting 73.3 gigabytes of information. On average, a visit to the site examined 5.59 documents, whereas during 1999 it had received 27,624 visits, requesting 4.6 gigabytes of information, with an average of 3.63 documents examined by the visits. This indicates that the interest in the Centre's site has grown more than tenfold during the past year and that it now provides 16 times the amount of information than the year before. Analysis also indicates that the primary interest of visitors has been official documents, such as those relating to the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Commission and the Tenth Crime Congress. Crime trends statistics ranked second among the topics of interest of the visits.

16. OIOS considers that the information provided to CICP by its webmaster is adequate to satisfy the requirements of the recommendations, but that a registration procedure should be conducted on an experimental basis to check on accuracy.

Recommendation 4. Training in the use of UNCJIN and related tools. **The Centre should develop a training package for trainers from developing countries to facilitate the use by such countries of UNCJIN and UNOJUST and other electronic databases on crime prevention and criminal justice.**

17. A publication "UNCJIN: Providing Information to and from Developing Countries", dated summer 1997, was issued. There is also an online version at www.odccp.org/uncjin. In addition, the Centre, in cooperation with the Statistics Division and Statistics Canada, is finalizing a guide to the development of criminal justice statistics. Information on UNCJIN is presented in paragraph 60 of document E/CN.15/2000/2.

18. No training package has been developed. However, with the spread of the Internet and information technology usage, the Centre considers and OIOS agrees that it does not need to offer specialized training in the use of its web site.

(b) Hard-copy publications

Recommendation 5. Review of traditional publications. **An analysis of sales data, a focus group discussion among representatives of major user groups and, if possible, a readership survey should be conducted to assess the continuing usefulness of all hard-copy publications of the Centre.**

19. No readership surveys or related activities have been carried out. However, the publications programme was reviewed and reformulated in both 1998 and 2000. As a result, there is now one recurrent publication, *Forum on Crime and Society*, which will serve as a forum for expert debate on issues of priority concern to the Programme. CICP has developed an evaluation

form for inclusion in all its publications, starting with the first issue of the *Forum*.

20. OIOS considers that a focus group discussion among representatives of major user groups should be conducted, as envisaged in recommendation 5.

(c) Coverage of the Programme in the media

Recommendation 6. Public information strategy. **The Centre, with the cooperation of the Department of Public Information, should elaborate a public information strategy, with a view to making the Programme more visible in the media.**

21. No public information strategy has been developed. CICP works with the External Relations Unit/ODCCP, which coordinates with the Department of Public Information, to publicize its activities through press releases, statements, lectures, etc. A brochure on the Centre was produced for the eighth session of the Commission in 1999, and also distributed to the Tenth Congress. Brochures have also been issued on each of the three global programmes. In coordination with the External Relations Unit/ODCCP, the Centre worked with the Department of Public Information on the public information aspects of the Tenth Crime Congress, the elaboration of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Palermo High-level Political Signing Conference for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in December 2000. The Centre informed OIOS that "priority attention has been given to programme reorientation and direction so that less attention could be given to public information due to limited resource availability. For example, the Centre does not have a staff member dedicated to public information aspects of its work who could provide required input to the External Relations Unit and Department of Public Information."

22. OIOS considers that, when resources permit, a public information strategy should be elaborated, as proposed in recommendation 6.

4. Assistance to Governments

Recommendation 7. Executing agency status. **The Centre should seek executing agency status with UNDP so that Member States can include projects in crime prevention and criminal justice in their country programmes. Once the Centre has such status, appropriate information should be provided to Member States and development agencies on the contribution that operational activities in crime prevention and criminal justice make to development.**

23. CICP does not have executing agency status. CICP sought executing agency status and provided UNDP with the necessary information. However, the Centre informed OIOS that "with the establishment of ODCCP, which incorporates CICP and UNDCP, and given the increased operational synergy with the field operations of UNDCP, the value of seeking executing agency status with UNDP is being reviewed." The relationship between ODCCP and UNDP, and the issue of project execution modalities have been examined in the inspection report referred to in paragraph 4 above.

24. Apart from the execution of projects, the main issue raised in the recommendation is that information on the contribution to development of operational activities in crime prevention and criminal justice should be presented in the appropriate forums. Consequently, it is important for CICP actively to seek to make presentations on this contribution to intergovernmental meetings, such as the High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council, and to development agencies.

Recommendation 8. Training. **(a) The Centre should concentrate its training activities on two categories of persons: policy makers likely to bring about policy changes in their countries, and trainers likely to generate a multiplier effect to the training provided. (b) Attempts should be made to conduct follow-up evaluations six months to a year after the training activities have been completed to assess the impact of such training on improving national crime prevention and criminal justice systems.**

25. Several projects under implementation address training needs of lawmakers and training of trainers. New project proposals containing training components

also reflect the recommendation to focus on policy makers and training of trainers in the respective areas. Budget lines for evaluation have been programmed in several ongoing projects and included in new project proposals. Within the framework of the anti-corruption project in Romania, some 200 members of judiciary were trained. An independent impact assessment of the training seminars has been completed that, however, makes no reference to or assessment of this training. The terms of reference of the proposed international advisory board (E/CN.15/2000/2, para. 28) have not yet been finalized, pending further refinement of the Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings. It is anticipated that the advisory board will include evaluation of all technical assistance projects, including those which address training.

26. OIOS considers that CICP has been implementing recommendation 8, which involves an ongoing process. OIOS will continue to keep that process under review in the context of follow-up to the OIOS inspection referred to in paragraph 4 above.

Recommendation 9. Fund-raising for operational activities. **The Centre should develop proposals for a fund-raising strategy and present them to the Commission at its eighth session.**

27. No fund-raising strategy was presented at the eighth session, but the issue of the resource mobilization was reported on in paragraphs 63 to 66 of document E/CN.15/1999/2. At the ninth session, the mobilization of resources and strategic management by the Commission were covered in paragraphs 70 to 73 and 74 to 80, respectively, of that document. However, while a considerable increase in contributions was reported in paragraph 71, and the importance of general-purpose contributions was stressed in paragraph 73, there was no presentation of a fund-raising strategy. Resource mobilization was also the subject of paragraphs 42 to 44 of the report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice (A/55/119 of 5 July 2000).

28. The Centre informed OIOS that, "In the context of elaborating the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Secretariat and the Member States gave careful attention to funding mechanisms to support the provision of technical assistance to developing countries. Notwithstanding the absence of a formally presented strategy, CICP and ODCCP are actively pursuing fund-raising, particularly within the framework of the global programmes and the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and this has resulted in increased mobilization of resources. Informal donor luncheons have been held, focused on, for example, the Global Programme against Corruption. These efforts will continue."

29. OIOS understands that CICP has recently hired a staff member at the L-2 level to work on fund-raising for CICP projects/activities with the Fund-raising Unit/ODCCP, which is responsible for coordinating fund-raising for CICP, and that the first CICP major donors meeting will be convened on 26 April 2001. Funding of technical cooperation projects will be reviewed in the context of follow-up to the OIOS inspection referred to in paragraph 4 above.

B. Cooperation with related activities in other organizations

1. Programmes of the United Nations

Recommendation 10. Regional commissions. **The Centre should explore the possibility of cooperation with the regional commissions on the basis of the limited but successful experience so far.**

30. As noted in paragraph 14 (a) and (b) of document E/CN.15/1999/6 and Corr.1, the Asian and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Tenth Congress was held in cooperation with ESCAP and the Western Asian Regional Preparatory Meeting was held in cooperation with ESCWA. ECA and ECLAC were invited to participate in, but did not attend, the regional meetings for Africa and Latin America, respectively.

31. Although no further specific developments have occurred with regard to the regional commissions, the Centre informed OIOS that "cooperation with the Commissions will be sought as opportunities arise in the context of increased field activities."

2. Coordination role of the Centre for International Crime Prevention

Recommendation 11. Information sharing with partners. **Information sharing is now mostly ex post but should be ex ante as well to make it possible for partners to undertake joint ventures, where appropriate.**

32. OIOS noted information contained in chapter IX, "Coordinating the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and promoting partnerships", of E/CN.15/1999/2 and in chapter VI, section C, "Collecting and disseminating information" of E/CN.15/2000/2.

33. Internal documents reviewed by OIOS indicate that the Centre involves its partners in identifying and developing technical cooperation proposals and other activities in the context of specific projects.

3. United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network

(a) Institutes

Recommendation 12. Institutes. **The Centre should consult with affiliated and associated institutes in order to generate proposals to enhance partnerships, develop complementarities and strengthen the coordination role of the Centre.**

34. In his report at the eighth session on activities of the institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network (E/CN.15/1999/4), the Secretary-General provides a detailed description of the activities of the institutes, and notes (para. 2) that "the Centre is keen to promote cooperation through specific, action-oriented and time-bound activities which meet common objectives" and that "the Centre is increasingly approaching, on a case-by-case basis, research, academic and other institutions, which, while not formally a part of the Programme network, possess expertise that can contribute to the successful fulfilment of the current priorities of the Centre".

35. At the ninth session, the report of the Executive Director on the work of the Centre (E/CN.15/2000/2, para. 34) states that "it is envisaged that progress can be made in the coming years on the strategic reorientation of the network of institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme". The issue of the network is not reported on specifically in the Secretary-General's report on crime prevention and criminal justice (A/55/119). The Centre informed OIOS that:

> "The institutes are independent of the United Nations and CICP in their financial, management and programmatic decision-making. While CICP is a member of some of the advisory boards, the mandates of these boards are more akin to that of an academic advisory panel, which reviews past, ongoing and future programmes of work. ...
>
> "It should also be highlighted that the 10th United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held in Vienna in April-May 2000, provided an example of cooperation between the institutes and CICP. The institutes organized, with CICP support, a series of ancillary and expert group meetings that took part at the margins of the Congress, which notably enhanced the substantive content of technical discussions during the event.
>
> "As a possible way to further enhance collaboration between the institutes programme network and CICP, discussions are currently taking place on establishing a forum, within the programme of work of the regular session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice."

36. OIOS will review the outcome of these discussions in the context of follow-up to the inspection referred to in paragraph 4 above.

(b) National focal points

Recommendation 13. Focal points. **The Centre should present to the Commission at its eighth session proposals on how Governments can best utilize the new mechanism of focal points.**

37. OIOS was informed that, "The Centre has reviewed the proposed new mechanism of focal points and has decided not to pursue this mechanism because a single governmental focal point would not be able to cover and contribute effectively to the broad range of issues addressed by the Crime Prevention and Criminal

Justice Programme. Moreover, the formal channels of communication would still need to be adhered to. Therefore, the Centre for International Crime Prevention will not be implementing this recommendation." OIOS considers this explanation reasonable.

(c) Intergovernmental organizations

Recommendation 14. Intergovernmental organizations. **The Centre should consult with intergovernmental organizations active in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice in order to develop proposals for closer cooperation, particularly in operational activities.**

38. OIOS has reviewed internal documents such as the draft Memorandum of Understanding between ODCCP and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat, which refers to both crime prevention and drug control issues, and the Agreement between the Commission of the European Communities and CICP/ODCCP on a fellowship programme, and concludes that this recommendation is being implemented.

(d) Non-governmental organizations

Recommendation 15. Non-governmental organizations. **The Centre should consult with non-governmental organizations active in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice, including the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council, in order to clarify the roles that non-governmental organizations could play in the implementation of the Programme and agree on a division of labour, thus leading to a greater involvement of non-governmental organizations in the Programme.**

39. OIOS noted that at the eighth session of the Commission, statements were submitted by the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation (E/CN.15/1999/NGO/1 and 3, by the Centro Nazionale di Prevenzione e Difesa Sociale (E/CN.15/1999/NGO/4) and a group of 31 national and international NGOs (E/CN.15/1999/NGO/2). At the ninth session, statements were submitted by 10 national and international NGOs (E/CN.15/2000/NGO/1), by the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation (E/CN.15/2000/NGO/2), by another group of 5 international NGOs (E/CN.15/2000/NGO/3) and by the Centro Nazionale di Prevenzione e Difesa Sociale (E/CN.15/2000/NGO/4).

40. OIOS was informed by CICP that:

"Consultations with NGOs were carried out in order to design and develop global programmes on the fight against corruption, trafficking in human beings and transnational organized crime. The NGOs provided inputs for the development of these global programmes.

"Consultations with the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council (ISPAC) are held regularly, particularly in the context of the annual coordination meetings attended by CICP. Ongoing consultations with the Vienna NGO Alliance on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are held, at the annual sessions of the Commission and at the Alliance's periodic meetings at which CICP provides a briefing on its work. Close involvement and partnership with the NGOs were achieved for the Tenth Crime Congress, through numerous activities organized by them, and for the Palermo Signing Conference on the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

"In the elaboration of the Global Programme against Corruption, consultations have been held with the following non-governmental organizations: Transparency International and International Chamber of Commerce. In the implementation of the Global Programme at the national level, the following NGOs have been involved: Romania: Pro Democracy and Transparency International Romania; Hungary: Transparency International Hungary; Lebanon: Transparency International Lebanon, Information International and other youth organizations; Benin: Transparency International Benin.

"CICP considers that a division of labour would be relevant and meaningful only in the context of specific projects and activities for which individual NGOs could be engaged as executing agencies/partners. This has been the case, for example, with ISPAC for some of the

Palermo side events and the Rome symposium in March 1999 on promoting the Convention."

OIOS considers these activities constitute implementation of recommendation 15.

C. Priorities and the needs of client groups

Recommendation 16. Priorities and the needs of client groups. **The Centre should identify the needs of its client groups and derive from this analysis a strategy for setting priorities and reconciling different needs.**

41. OIOS noted the results of the "customer satisfaction" assessment with regard to the servicing of the Commission, as reported in paragraphs 14 and 15 of document E/CN.15/2000/2. However, OIOS considers the returned questionnaires to be too few to constitute a meaningful assessment. OIOS was informed by the Centre that their "main orientation comes from mandates embodied in resolutions and decisions of the competent intergovernmental bodies; further priority setting is pursued in ongoing dialogue with the Commission and in bilateral contacts with Member States, NGOs and relevant organizations. Member States are the foremost clients of the Centre. They set the priorities and decide on activities, influenced by other actors, such as IGOs and NGOs. The Secretariat also actively contributes to this process. Reconciling different needs of various groups of Member States is carried out through the processes of consensus building on resolutions and decisions to be made by the intergovernmental bodies and in informal consultations."

42. OIOS considers that, in the light of activities described in paragraphs 6, 7, 14, 15, 30, 32, 35 and 38 to 40 above, the issues that gave rise to recommendation 16 have been addressed.

D. Intergovernmental review

Recommendation 17. Submission of the report to the Commission. **The present report, together with the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination thereon, should be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its eighth session, for consideration and action.**

43. The in-depth evaluation report was made available to the Commission at its seventh session in April 1998 (E/CN.15/1998/10, para. 39). The conclusions and recommendations of CPC do not appear to have been submitted to the Commission.

44. In the report on the eighth session of the Commission (E/CN.15/1999/12[2]), neither the in-depth evaluation report nor the OIOS report on the review of programme management was included in the list of documents before the session, contained in annex III to its report. Nor does the Commission's report itself indicate that the OIOS reports were brought to its attention, or that any action was taken on them. The OIOS report on the review of programme management was briefly referred to in paragraph 13 of the report of the Executive Director at the eighth session (E/CN.15/1999/2), but the in-depth evaluation was not mentioned. OIOS reports were mentioned in paragraph 9 of the report of the Executive Director at the ninth session (E/CN.15/2000/2).

III. Conclusions

45. Overall, the level of implementation of the recommendations in the in-depth evaluation was somewhat disappointing. Recommendation 1 on the servicing of intergovernmental meetings, and recommendations 3, 4 and 5, on information and dissemination functions, and recommendations 10 to 15, on cooperation with related activities in other organizations, were implemented in a manner OIOS found to be satisfactory. OIOS will review conformity with proposals in paragraphs 13, 20, 22 and 24 of the present report aimed at completing the implementation of recommendations on the monitoring of standards and norms, traditional publications, public information policy, and information on the contribution that operational activities in crime prevention and criminal justice make to development. OIOS will follow up on

these issues, and the more general issues concerning training aspects of projects, fund-raising, and relations between CICP and the affiliated and associated institutes, raised in paragraphs 26, 29, 36 and 42 of the present report.

(*Signed*) Dileep **Nair**
Under-Secretary-General
for Internal Oversight Services

Notes

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/51/16), part I, para. 55.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 10* (E/1999/30).

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1).

[4] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/55/6/Rev.1).

[5] Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/56/6/Rev.1).